BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2006-97-WS - ORDER NO. 2006-245

APRIL 26, 2006

IN RE:	Application of Tega Cay Water Service, Inc.)	ORDER GRANTING
	for Adjustment of Rates and Charges and)	REQUEST FOR LOCAL
	Modifications to Certain Terms and)	PUBLIC HEARING
	Conditions for the Provision of Water and)	
	Sewer Service.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the request of the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") for a "night hearing" (i.e., local public hearing) to be scheduled in the present docket. On April 3, 2006, Tega Cay Water Service, Inc. ("Tega Cay" or the "Company") filed an Application with the Commission requesting approval of a new schedule of rates and charges and modifications to terms and conditions for the Company's water and sewer services provided to Tega Cay's customers in South Carolina. Following public notice of Tega Cay's Application, a request was filed by the ORS on April 11, 2006, asking the Commission to schedule a night hearing with respect to Tega Cay's Application. Specifically, the ORS requests that a night hearing be scheduled at a location in York

To more accurately describe the so-called "night hearings", this Order will refer to them as local public hearings. The Commission periodically receives requests to hold public hearings in the general locale of water and wastewater facilities that are the subject of proposed rate increases. These hearings are held for the purpose of taking local public witness testimony at a location and time of day, typically in the evening, that is conducive to increased participation by affected customers. Many customers may find it difficult to attend the hearing in the PSC's Columbia facilities where the applicant is given the opportunity to put on their case in chief.

County, South Carolina. According to the ORS, the night hearing will afford the public an opportunity to express concerns or comments on Tega Cay's pending Application.

Upon consideration of the request, the Commission finds that a local public hearing in this docket should be scheduled and held in the evening in the York County area. This hearing shall be scheduled in addition to the public hearing set to begin Wednesday, August 16, 2006, at 10:30 a.m. in the Commission's hearing room, Synergy Business Park, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina. A local public hearing will allow interested customers of Tega Cay who cannot attend the hearing in Columbia to appear and present testimony and evidence relevant to Tega Cay's Application. It is being scheduled to provide a local forum and convenient time for customers of Tega Cay and other interested persons not already parties to the proceeding. Parties of record in this docket who have filed Petitions to Intervene and who seek to cross-examine witnesses of Tega Cay will present their testimony and exhibits at the public hearing on August 16, 2006. Further, Tega Cay will present the Company's witnesses, testimony, and exhibits at the hearing to be held before the Commission in Columbia, South Carolina.

Upon consideration of the request for a local public hearing in York County, the Commission makes the following findings:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. A hearing on Tega Cay's request for an adjustment in rates and charges and modifications to certain terms and conditions for the provision of water and sewer service is scheduled to be held in the Commission's hearing room located at 101

Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina, and to begin on Wednesday, August 16, 2006, at 10:30 a.m.

- 2. The Company serves customers in certain areas located in South Carolina.
- 3. A local public hearing on the Application to be held in the evening in York County, South Carolina would provide a convenient forum for the customers of Tega Cay to provide evidence related to the Application to the Commission.

Based upon the above Findings of Fact, the Commission concludes as follows:

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. The Commission concludes that a local public hearing held in the evening in York County, South Carolina would allow interested customers to appear before the Commission to present evidence concerning the pending rate case Application.
- 2. The Commission concludes that a local public hearing held in the evening in York County, South Carolina would serve the public interest as such a public hearing would provide the customers affected by the rate Application a convenient forum in terms of location and time to appear before the Commission to present evidence related to the pending rate case Application.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. A local public hearing in the pending rate case Application filed by Tega Cay Water Service, Inc. shall be held in the evening in York County, South Carolina.
- 2. The Commission Staff is directed to find a suitable location and date for the local public hearing and shall provide notice of the hearing to the parties in this docket and to the customers affected by the Application.

3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Randy Mitchell. Chairman

ATTEST:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)